

The California Highway Patrol was Officer Romero's passion. He began his career with the California Highway Patrol at the Riverside Station near his home, and a year later he transferred to the Sante Fe Springs Station, near his childhood community. Romero served the remainder of his career in Santa Fe Springs, giving back to his community. He loved riding his motorcycle and combined this with his passion for law enforcement to become a very successful motorcycle officer. Officer Romero's colleagues shall always remember his infectious grin, practical jokes, and commitment to his job.

Officer Romero was a devoted family man. He is survived by his wife Sandra and children, Austin, Windsor, David, Victor, and Vanessa. When he was not on duty, Officer Romero enjoyed spending time with his family, riding dirt bikes, and coaching his children's sports teams. Officer David Marin Romero served the State of California honorably and conscientiously, and fulfilled his oath as an officer of the law. Officer Romero gave his life while assisting those in peril or distress. His character, integrity, loyalty, and dedication to law enforcement are greatly appreciated and will never be forgotten.

Officer David Marin Romero sacrificed his life doing what he loved to do—providing protection for the community in which he was raised. We shall always be grateful for Officer Romero's heroic service and the sacrifices he made while protecting the community he loved.●

IN HONOR OF THE MEMORY OF NICK BRONZAN

● Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I rise to honor the memory of the late Nick Bronzan, a tireless champion for young people and seniors in central California. Mr. Bronzan, a long-time Fresno resident, passed away in the peaceful company of his family and loved ones on December 4, 2005. He was 90 years old.

Nick Bronzan, the son of Yugoslavian immigrants, was a true son of California's Central Valley. He was born in Stockton and spent his formative years in Manteca. A gifted athlete, Nick excelled as a football player at Fresno State College. Admired by his coaches and teammates for his great leadership qualities, Nick served as the captain of the 1939 championship team.

Upon graduation, Nick taught mathematics and coached a number of sports at Kerman High School for 5 years. Nick and his wife Peggy were beloved for all they did in both school and community activities. He would further his passion for helping young people by working for the YMCA in Fresno, Tulare, and Culver City. In 1961, Nick became the general secretary of the Fresno YMCA, and 7 years later, he was appointed as the executive director of the Central Valley YMCA. Throughout his professional ca-

reer, Nick demonstrated an unyielding commitment to positively impact the lives of young people.

In his retirement, Nick generously lent his leadership and passion for community service to a number of very worthy and empowering causes. As director of the Fresno Foster Grandparents Program, he spearheaded a volunteer program for seniors to work with children lacking parents and families. Nick also began a house-sharing organization to increase and enhance older companionship. A powerful and determined advocate for the senior community, Nick successfully convinced businesses to hire senior watchmen to work late shifts. In 1984, he was appointed by then-California Assembly Speaker Willie L. Brown, Jr., to the California Commission on Aging and Long-Term Care. Whereas some see their golden years as a time to fade into the background in public life, Nick embraced it as an opportunity to continue to lead, to motivate others, and to make good things happen.

Nick Bronzan devoted 70 of his 90 years to community service. Nick selflessly gave his boundless energy, genuine compassion, and precious humanity to uplifting and empowering those who are most often neglected in our society: the young and the old. Nick has left behind a legacy of service and the admiration of those whose lives he touched over the years. He will be dearly missed.

Nick is survived by his wife Peggy; two daughters, Mary Bronzan and Ann McDonald; son, Bruce; five grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. On December 11, more than 200 members of his family and friends gathered in Fresno to honor a rich life, well lived.●

TRIBUTE TO LINWOOD CARTER

● Mr. LUGAR. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to and recognize the contributions of an individual who has dedicated three decades of his life to serving the U.S. Congress.

Linwood B. Carter II began his career with the Congressional Research Service in 1975 and will be embarking on a well-earned retirement shortly after the New Year. As an information research specialist in U.S. military and international security affairs, Linwood has responded to literally thousands of congressional research requests over the years with a level of professionalism and skill I have seldom encountered. In carrying out our responsibilities as legislators, we in the Senate and our colleagues in the House confront a constant need for accurate and timely information; often it has been through the efforts of Linwood Carter that those responsibilities have been met. His mastery of the Library of Congress's resources and the informational nooks and crannies in the world of international security affairs has been unsurpassed.

Linwood's dedication to serving the needs of Congress is unparalleled. His

quiet professional demeanor will be sorely missed by Members, the Congressional Research Service, and by the Library of Congress. I would like to extend our thanks to him for his efforts on our behalf for the last three decades and to wish him the best in the years to come.●

COMMENDING THE INDIANA WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION CIVIL SUPPORT TEAM

● Mr. LUGAR. Mr. President, I rise today to commend the certification of the Indiana Civil Support Team and the support it will provide the people of Indiana in the event of an attack utilizing a weapon of mass destruction. During this holiday season, many prefer not to think of the horrors associated with nuclear, chemical and biological weapons, but the 22 members of the 53rd WMD-CST don't have that luxury. It is their job to help protect Hoosiers should a WMD attack occur in Indiana.

On November 28, 2005, the Pentagon announced that the Indiana Civil Support Team was fully ready to assist civil authorities in responding to a domestic weapon of mass destruction incident. Stationed in Indianapolis, the team possesses the requisite skills, training and equipment to make a difference in assisting first responders and local officials in the critical moments immediately following a nuclear, radiological, chemical or biological event. The CST is able to deploy rapidly, assist local first responders in determining the nature of the attack, provide medical and technical advice, and pave the way for the identification and arrival of follow-on State and Federal military response assets.

In March 2004, I was pleased to join with Governor Kernan and Senator BAYH to announce the creation of the WMD-CST in Indiana. The team is made up of highly skilled, full-time members of the Indiana National Guard and Reserve who have completed 20 months of intense training. The team is equipped with sophisticated detection, analytical, monitoring, communications and protective equipment and is under the command and control of Governor Mitch Daniels. This signifies another important step to ensuring that our country, the State of Indiana, and our local communities are prepared should we face terrorists armed with a nuclear, chemical or biological weapon.

Last week's announcement occurred with little fanfare and negligible public interest. This is unfortunate because the threat posed by the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction is the No. 1 national security threat facing our country.

Chemical weapons were introduced on the battlefields of World War I. Nuclear weapons ended World War II. Biological weapons were components of Cold War arsenals. The 20th century